

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 1-24 is respectfully acknowledged.

Claims 13-18 have been amended to be written in proper "computer-readable medium" form to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 101.

In addition, independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 have been amended to recite that first order differential values of image signals of the defect pixel and first order differential values of image signals of non-defect pixels adjacent to the defect pixel are made to be continuous, so to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In this connection, it is respectfully pointed out that the specification describes this feature of the present invention at, for example, page 27, line 9 to page 28, line 21.

Still further, the claims have also been amended to make come minor grammatical improvements and/or to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent.

No new matter has been added and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised, and it is respectfully submitted that the claims, as amended, are now in full compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 101 and 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered, and that the claims are now in condition for immediate allowance.

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If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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